Broadband Public Policy Update | *July 16, 2010*

Table of Contents

I. Congressional Updates

A. On July 13, 2010, Senator John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, issued a statement regarding the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit's decision overturning the FCC's indecency policy. The opinion says the FCC's guidelines on indecency violate the First Amendment. http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=23fe5ba7-0a6a-41ee-88c2-67f260af9ed8&ContentType_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d

B. On July 15, 2010, the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation held a Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance Subcommittee hearing today on protecting youths in an online world. A hearing summary with a list of witnesses and key quotations can be found on the committee's website. http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=b200822b-d1f6-44a5-bdfa-b578383cfc8f&ContentType_id=77eb43da-aa94-497d-a73f-5c951ff72372&Group_id=4b968841-f3e8-49da-a529-7b18e32fd69d

II. Federal Agency News and Proceedings

A. Department of Commerce

One July 14, 2010 U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke made remarks at a cybersecurity policy review meeting. Those remarks are posted on the Commerce site. http://www.commerce.gov/news/secretary-speeches/2010/07/14/remarks-cybersecurity-policy-review-meeting

B. Department of Energy

On July 14, 2010, U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced today that $30 million in funding from the Recovery Act and FY 2010 budget appropriations will be made available to qualified small businesses to support the commercialization of promising new technologies. http://www.energy.gov/news/9209.htm

C. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

On July 14, 2010, Secretary Napolitano joined President Obama, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and White House Cybersecurity Coordinator Howard Schmidt to highlight the Obama Administration's continued commitment to working closely with businesses, community-based organizations,

governments at all levels and the American public to enhance America's cybersecurity. *Further information about this grant opportunity is available in a separate attachment.*
http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1279145110641.shtm

On July 15, 2010, DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano announced more than $1.8 billion in Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Emergency Management Agency preparedness grants designed to help states, urban areas, tribal governments and non-profit organizations enhance their protection, prevention, response and recovery capabilities for risks associated with potential terrorist attacks and other hazards.
http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1279205905487.shtm

D. Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

On July 12, 2010, FCC is the "most improved" agency across the entire federal government according to the 2010 OPM Viewpoint Employee Satisfaction Survey released today by the Office of Management and Budget.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0712/DOC-299718A1.pdf

On July 13, 2010, FCC releases Commissioner Copps' statement at the Comcast/NBCU Forum in Chicago, Illinois.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0713/DOC-299758A1.pdf

On July 14, 2010, FCC announces that in partnership with the White House and the Department of Commerce, it will host an event Monday, July 19, to commemorate and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and highlight technologies developed to empower the daily lives of Americans with disabilities.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0714/DOC-299772A1.pdf

On June 2, 2010, the FCC released a Public Notice seeking nominations of Tribal representatives to serve on the FCC-Native Nations Broadband Task Force ("Task Force"). The Public Notice requested that nominations be submitted by July 15, 2010.2 The Commission has determined that a short extension of time to submit nominations is advisable to permit Tribal governments adequate time to complete their internal processes associated with nominating a representative to the Task Force. Therefore, on its own motion, the Commission now extends the deadline for the receipt of nominations of Tribal representatives for the Task Force until August 20, 2010.
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-10-1315A1.pdf

On July 14, 2010, FCC released a *Report and Order*, we amend the Commission's amateur radio service rules to permit amateur radio operators who may be employees of participating entities to transmit messages in emergency and disaster preparedness drills.
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-124A1.pdf

On July 14, 2010, FCC released Chairman Genachowski's letter on an inventory of commercial spectrum.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0714/DOC-299780A1.pdf

On July 15, 2010, FCC announced that on July 19, 2010 it will be kicking off its year-long celebration of the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0715/DOC-299788A1.pdf

On July 15, 2010, in an effort to streamline access to information for consumers as well as industry, the FCC proposed completing the transition to electronic filing of tariffs, which disclose the rates, terms and conditions set by certain carriers.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0715/DOC-299793A1.pdf

On July 15, 2010, FCC took steps to make additional spectrum available for new investment in mobile broadband networks by promoting flexible use and removing barriers, while ensuring robust mobile satellite service capabilities.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0715/DOC-299795A1.pdf

On July 15, 2010, FCC introduced a new healthcare connectivity program that would expand investment in broadband for medically underserved communities across the country. The program would give patients in rural areas access to state-of-the-art diagnostic tools typically available only in the largest and most sophisticated medical centers.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0715/DOC-299792A1.pdf

On July 15, 2010, FCC releases presentation slides from its July spectrum dashboard meeting.
http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0715/DOC-299830A1.pdf

On July 15, FCC announced that the tentative agenda for the August 5th Open Meeting would include hearing aid compatibility R&O and FNPRM and wireless backhaul NPRM and NOI.
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-299850A1.pdf

III. **Related News**

A. HHS Issues Final Rule On 'Meaningful Use' Of E-Health Records
   Tech Daily Dose-July 13, 2010

   The Health and Human Services Department issued its final regulation Tuesday on what doctors and hospitals need to do to get a share of funding to help in the adoption of electronic medical records, saying it made numerous changes to address concerns that the proposed rule was too rigid. http://techdailydose.nationaljournal.com/2010/07/hhs-issues-final-rule-on-meani.php

B. Verizon Prescribes the Cloud for Medical Records
   Gigaom-July 14, 2010

   Verizon Business has created a service to store patient medical records online in a manner accessible to patients, physicians and insurers. The Verizon Health Information Exchange takes a doctor's records, standardizes the information and can deliver that information to physicians or hospitals around the country via a secure web portal. http://gigaom.com/2010/07/14/verizon-prescribes-the-cloud-for-medical-records/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+OmMalik+%28GigaOM%29

C. US Freeze on Technology Projects Sends Shivers Through the Industry
   Benton Foundation-July 14, 2010

   The Obama administration has frozen $3 billion in technology spending and is re-examining billions of dollars in other federal computer projects, jarring companies such as Accenture PLC, International Business Machines Corp. and Oracle Corp. that count federal agencies among their major clients. http://www.benton.org/node/39216

D. Fighting for a national interoperable public safety communications network
   PoliceOne.Com-July 13, 2010

   The FCC still wants to auction off the D-Block to a commercial wireless carrier but the Public Safety Alliance, APCO, and others are gaining steam in opposition. http://www.policeone.com/police-products/communications/interoperability/articles/2098326-Fighting-for-a-national-interoperable-public-safety-communications-network/

E. Public Safety Officials To Launch Lobbying Blitz For D-Block
   Tech Daily Dose-July 15, 2010

   Police chiefs, sheriffs, emergency communications professionals and others plan a lobbying blitz next week on Capitol Hill in an effort to persuade

lawmakers to reallocate the D-block of spectrum for the creation of a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network.
http://techdailydose.nationaljournal.com/2010/07/public-safety-officials-to-lau.php

IV. State of Alabama News

Map shows broadband access
The Cleburne News-July 15, 2010

ConnectingALABAMA, a program to expand the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service throughout the state, has reached a milestone with the release of an interactive map and videos illustrating the importance of broadband access.
http://www.cleburnenews.com/view/full_story/8775648/article-Map-shows-broadband-access?instance=news_main